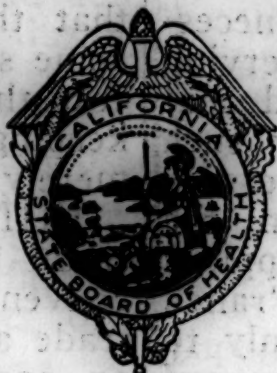


CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Weekly Bulletin



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GUY P. JONES
EDITOR

BOARD ADOPTS NEW REGULATIONS FOR EGGS.

Eggs constitute one of the most commonly used of all foods. Purchasers of eggs, however, are confused by the wide variety of terms, mostly adjectives, used in grading this food product. They vary widely in their descriptive wording. There are "yard eggs," "washed eggs" and twenty-six other terms commonly used in egg terminology. In the interest of protecting the public against unscrupulous dealers and in an effort to standardize the grading of eggs the California State Board of Health has recently revised its regulations covering the grading and labeling of eggs. These regulations now read as follows:

Revised Regulations of California State Board of Health Governing Grading and Labeling of Eggs.

The attention of the State Board of Health has frequently been called to the fact that considerable misunderstanding exists in the egg trade concerning proper methods of labeling eggs in compliance with the state food laws. The board, at its regular meeting held September 13, 1924, adopted the following conclusions for the guidance of its inspectors.

I. That the wholesale egg trade uses terms indicative of size, age, quality, manner and preparation, and condition of storage, which have definite meaning to such wholesale egg trade only, because individuals have access to expert knowledge and recourse to authoritative arbitration vested with effective penal powers; that such terms have been subject to extensive abuse in retail trading with no recourse excepting the food laws; and that it is unnecessary and generally undesirable for the technical terminology required by the wholesale trade to be carried through to the retail purchaser of eggs.

That in order to take proper advantage

of guarantees as provided for in the Pure Foods Act, it is incumbent upon the retail dealer to obtain accurate information concerning the trade meaning of the descriptive terms used by wholesalers in their guarantees; or else insist on guarantees being written in terms which he can pass on to the retail purchaser without violating the food laws.

II. (a) That the grade designated as U. S. Specials by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture represents the highest grade of eggs obtainable for the retail trade under the present conditions of distribution.

(b) That the term "fresh eggs," or "new laid" eggs, as ordinarily used by retailer and consumer, indicates supreme commercial quality unless qualified by words indicating age, special methods of preparation or inferiority of quality or size.

(c) That such terms unqualified are properly applicable only to eggs which meet the present (September, 1924) specifications of U. S. Specials excluding all processed, cold stored, artificially

cleaned and incubator eggs, and all sizes below 24 ounces average and 22 ounces minimum per dozen.

(d) That U. S. Specials are not necessarily suitable for hatching or preserving in water glass, or otherwise, and that purchasers desiring eggs for any such special purpose should take necessary precautions and not depend on the regular retail trade for their supplies.

III. That the terms "eggs," "ranch eggs," "farm eggs," etc., apply only to eggs which meet the specifications of U. S. Extras, excluding all sizes below 24 ounces average and 22 ounces minimum per dozen, unless such terms are qualified by appropriate words indicating age, inferior quality, smaller size or special methods of preparation.

IV. That in order to meet the requirements of paragraphs second, fourth and sixth of section 6, of the Pure Foods Act (see note) it is necessary for all eggs not specified above to be sold under a label or representation which informs the purchaser accurately concerning the manner in which they differ from eggs described in II and III.

V. That eggs below grade of U. S. No. 1, are not considered fit to enter direct consumptive trade.

VI. That "tolerance" in U. S. grades refers to wholesale trading and no tolerance should be allowable in direct consumptive trade.

VII. (a) That eggs are necessary articles of food and because of their expense at certain seasons it is essential that the purchaser receive full values; that the purchaser frequently does not do so because eggs are sold by count and not by weight and he is not accurately informed as to size, and that such terms as "medium" or "pullets" and "pewees" or "small" are commonly understood and serve to call attention to the fact that the eggs are not of usual size even though the description is not so definite as a statement of weight per dozen, and that "medium" or "pullets" properly apply to eggs weighing at least 20 ounces average and 19 ounces minimum per dozen.

(b) That such terms as "held," "stored," "Eastern," etc., clearly indicate greater age.

(c) That the use of the term "fancy," "selected," and like words or phrases indicate superior quality or size; that used in connection with the terms "fresh," "ranch," "farm," "cold stored," "processed," or "fresh Eastern" they indicate a superior grade of eggs of that variety; that the term "special" and "extra" will be understood to apply to eggs so graded under the U. S. Standards.

(d) That such terms as "processed," "cold stored," "washed," "incubator," "sterilized," "preserved," etc., indicate that the eggs have been subjected to some special process or treatment either for the purpose of improving their keeping qualities or appearance or merely incidental to some purpose.

VIII. That a simple and uniform trade nomenclature would be a great convenience to all branches of the egg trade and the following is suggested as an appropriate system based on three quality grades and three sizes, and conforming with the "tentative U. S. grades of eggs":

U. S. Specials—Large

24 ounces average and 22 ounces minimum

U. S. Extras—Medium

20 ounces average and 19 ounces minimum

U. S. No. 1—Small

16 ounces average and 15 ounces minimum

IX. The use of the term "Bakers Eggs" in labeling or representation does not exempt eggs from the operation of paragraph six, section 4 of the Pure Foods Act (see note), and nothing but edible eggs should be sold under that name.

X. That egg meats are very perishable and unless handled under the most sanitary conditions are apt to become a serious menace to the public health; and that nothing but edible stock should be used in their preparation either for drying, freezing, or immediate use.

NOTE.—Provisions of the Pure Foods Act referred to by reference to this note are as follows:

Sec. 6. "Food * * * shall be deemed mis-labeled or mis-branded within the meaning of this act in any of the following cases":

Paragraph second. "If it is labeled or branded * * * so as to deceive or mislead, or tend to deceive or mislead, the purchaser; or if it be falsely labeled in any respect * * *"

Paragraph fourth. "If the package * * * or its label shall bear any statement, design, or device * * * which statement, design or device shall be false or misleading in any particular."

Paragraph sixth. "If having no label it * * * is sold or offered for sale under a name, designation, description or representation which is false or misleading in any particular whatever; and in case of eggs and poultry: if they have been kept or packed in cold storage or otherwise preserved, they must be so indicated by written or printed label or placard plainly design-

nating such fact when offered or exposed for sale * * *."

Sec. 4. "Food shall be deemed adulterated within the meaning of this act in any of the following cases":

Paragraph sixth. "If it consists in whole or in part of a filthy, decomposed or putrid animal or vegetable substance, or any portion of an animal or vegetable unfit for food, whether manufactured or not, or if it is the product of a diseased animal * * *"

Results Obtained in Treatment of Leprosy.

Few people in this country other than physicians ever see a case of leprosy although it is estimated that between five hundred and one thousand lepers are still at large in the United States. Except the disease be in its last stages the average person would never recognize it. Lepers have been known to live in communities for years before being recognized as such. Often these persons are discovered to be lepers when applying for treatment for some other condition.

Recently three lepers have been discharged from the National Leprosarium at Carville, Louisiana as having now no manifestations of the disease. To all intents and purposes, they have been cured although the doctors merely certify that the disease has been arrested and that these persons are no longer a menace to the public health.

The treatment at Carville, while by no means wholly confined to the use of special preparations of chaulmoogra oil, depends very materially on these preparations for its efficacy, or in other words, their use is regarded as an important adjunct of the treatment.

The accommodations for lepers at Carville have never been sufficient to take care of all the lepers who apply. At present there are 211 beds, all of which are filled, but there will soon be facilities to care for a total of 415 lepers and it is believed that the new buildings will be rapidly filled as there is a large waiting list.

The timely provision for the isolation and treatment of these unfortunate victims of this terrible disease will, no doubt, diminish the spread of leprosy in the United States, a matter that is already giving great concern to both National and State health officers.—U. S. P. H. Service.

Good health and good sense are two of life's greatest blessings.—Publius Syrius

How Is Your Public Health Dollar Spent?

When considering appropriations health officers should weigh carefully each activity for which they desire funds—determine definitely the place of each in the control of communicable disease, and make preparations for carrying on such activities in direct proportion to the bearing that they will have upon communicable disease control. In Detroit, a city conducting a remarkably efficient health department, the health appropriation last year was \$1.83 per capita. Out of every dollar expended for public health 47 cents was used in the maintenance of hospitals, 10 cents for school health work, 7 cents for contagious disease, 6 cents for infant welfare, including prenatal infant and preschool work, 5 cents for tuberculosis, a little less than 3 cents for dental work and, so on. The health officer of Detroit in commenting on these appropriations said: "Who can say whether or not the apportionment is correct? It seems a problem to which not only this department but all health departments may well devote considerable attention."

The healthy know not of their health, but only the sick.—Carlyle.

Severe Type of Smallpox Appears In California.

Smallpox, of a virulent type, is present in California. At least a dozen deaths from this disease, according to newspaper reports, have occurred recently in Fresno. At this writing, the California State Board of Health is conducting an investigation into the present situation in that city. No report is available as yet. It is known definitely, however, that an extremely severe type of the disease has appeared recently in California. Individuals who are wise will make certain that they are protected against smallpox by securing vaccination without delay. Health officers should advise the residents of their communities to be vaccinated at once.

Better Care For Mothers.

A nation-wide movement to improve maternity conditions has been begun by the American Gynecological Society the American Child Health Association, and the American Association of Obstetricians, Gynecologists and Abdominal Surgeons.

MORBIDITY.***Diphtheria.**

173 cases of diphtheria have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles 37, San Francisco 18, Santa Clara County 7, San Jose 8, San Diego 5, Long Beach 5, Los Angeles County 16, Oakland 8, Santa Barbara 1, Glendale 2, Santo Cruz 3, Sutter Creek 1, Pacific Grove 1, Mendocino County 1, Sonoma County 1, Pasadena 2, Oxnard 1, Gridley 1, Santa Barbara County 1, Richmond 1, Stockton 2, Sanger 1, Hawthorne 1, Maywood 1, Redlands 1, Alhambra 1, Bakersfield 2, San Bruno 1, Colma 1, Monrovia 1, Salinas 4, El Segundo 4, Watsonville 2, Berkeley 3, Santa Ana 4, Alameda County 4, Tulare County 3, Alameda 2, Willits 2, Monterey County 1, Fullerton 1, Redondo 1, Fresno 1, Hermosa Beach 3, Huntington Park 1, Fresno County 1, Woodland 3, Hayward 1.

Measles.

12 cases of measles have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles 5, Los Angeles County 2, San Francisco 1, Colton 1, San Diego 1, Pasadena 1, Chico 1.

Scarlet Fever.

109 cases of scarlet fever have been reported, as follows: Sutter County 6, Santa Clara County 9, Los Angeles 19, San Jose 8, Fresno County 7, Los Angeles County 12, San Francisco 1, Fresno 2, Salinas 1, Pasadena 3, Stockton 3, Sutter Creek 1, Riverside County 2, Tulare County 3, Huntington Park 1, Torrance 1, Alhambra 1, South Gate 1, Marysville 1, El Dorado County 1, Redlands 3, Burbank 1, Santa Ana 4, Orange County 2, Watsonville 1, West Covina 1, San Diego 1, San Francisco 1, Hawthorne 1, Hanford 2, Riverside County 1, Santa Paula 2, Oakland 4, Santa Barbara 2.

Smallpox.

74 cases of smallpox have been reported, as follows: Fresno 14, Compton 6, Santa Clara 5, Fresno County 6, Los Angeles 16, Redondo 2, Madera County 3, Alameda

County 1, Sacramento 3, Lassen County 1, Los Angeles County 3, Long Beach 3, Kern County 2, Oakland 3, Daly City 1, Yuba City 1, Elsinore 4.

Typhoid Fever.

17 cases of typhoid fever have been reported, as follows: Martinez 1, Lassen County 1, Los Angeles County 1, Pinole 1, San Joaquin County 1, Oakland 1, Huntington Park 1, Sonoma County 3, Glenn County 1, Los Angeles 1, Sacramento County 1, Siskiyou County 1, California 3.

Whooping Cough.

38 cases of whooping cough have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles 13, Los Angeles County 9, Orange County 1, Long Beach 3, Monterey County 2, San Jose 2, Berkeley 3, Pasadena 4, San Francisco 1.

Epidemic Encephalitis.

Los Angeles reported one case of epidemic encephalitis.

Typhus Fever.

Los Angeles reported one case of typhus fever.

Cerebrospinal Meningitis.

Three cases of cerebrospinal meningitis have been reported, as follows: Oakland 1, Los Angeles 1, Pasadena 1.

Leprosy.

Two cases of leprosy have been reported, as follows: Avalon 1, Santa Paula 1.

Poliomyelitis.

12 cases of poliomyelitis have been reported, as follows: Tuolumne County 1, Sonoma County 1, Oakland 1, Contra Costa County 2, Alameda 1, Los Angeles County 1, San Francisco 2, Alhambra 1, Santa Clara County 1, San Diego 1.

*From reports received on October 20 and 21 for week ending October 18.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS.

Disease	1924				1923			
	Week ending			Reports for week ending Oct. 18 received by Oct. 21	Week ending			Reports for week ending Oct. 20 received by Oct. 23
	Sept. 27	Oct. 4	Oct. 11		Sept. 29	Oct. 6	Oct. 13	
Anthrax.....	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Cerebrospinal Meningitis.....	2	3	1	3	0	0	1	0
Chickenpox.....	52	58	74	86	30	49	37	60
Diphtheria.....	159	188	185	173	159	149	218	190
Dysentery (Bacillary).....	0	0	3	1	0	3	3	2
Epidemic Encephalitis.....	2	0	3	1	2	2	2	2
Gonorrhoea.....	107	118	73	83	108	116	96	124
Influenza.....	9	18	6	35	18	18	17	13
Leprosy.....	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	1
Malaria.....	2	3	1	2	6	13	8	6
Measles.....	14	19	23	12	228	223	242	185
Mumps.....	40	32	56	45	7	9	8	7
Pneumonia.....	32	36	32	27	54	45	35	46
Poliomyelitis.....	7	3	10	12	16	27	22	12
Scarlet Fever.....	91	86	105	109	66	63	126	115
Smallpox.....	47	42	57	74	14	15	20	27
Syphilis.....	10	144	69	153	124	91	137	95
Tuberculosis.....	172	187	153	60	154	168	200	133
Typhoid Fever.....	24	52	28	17	23	21	25	15
Typhus Fever.....	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	2
Whooping Cough.....	42	51	57	38	42	25	37	16
Totals.....	932	1043	937	934	1051	1038	1236	1051